

Advent 1 – November 29

As we begin our Advent journey, we remember Mary and Joseph, who journeyed from Nazareth to Bethlehem. But when they arrived after their long travel there was no shelter to be found. All they could find was some space in a stable. It was in this lowly stable where Jesus and his family found shelter. Today we light the candle of HOPE. Our hope reflects our concern for this Earth: our home. In hope may we sustain each other through difficult times.

Advent 2 - December 6

As we gather today we remember Mary and Joseph who journeyed to Bethlehem. There Mary gave birth to a son, whom they named Jesus. This son brought fear into the heart and mind of King Herod. This king responded to the news of the birth with horrible violence. Today we light the candle of PEACE. We remember all the people who work for justice, human rights and peace in their communities, sometimes at the risk of their own lives. May we work together to create the shelter of peace for all to enjoy.

Advent 3 - December 13

As we gather today we remember Mary and Joseph who travelled far from their home. They went to be counted among their fellow citizens for the Emperor's census. They knew the fear and uncertainty of travelling to a strange place.. As do so many in our world today, especially new immigrants who come to Canada seeking a new life for their families. Today we light a candle of JOY. We remember all the people who find it hard to rejoice especially when they are far from their families and living under difficult conditions. Together may we work to create joy for others.

Advent 4 - December 20

As we gather today we remember Mary and Joseph who travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the city where Jesus was born, bringing peace and hope. Today there are many cities which are divided by conflict and tension but there are always people who work for reconciliation, believing that love is stronger than hate. Today we light a candle of LOVE. Together we show our support for this important and difficult work of creating a world of love and peace .

Christmas Day - December 25

I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For there is born today in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes , lying in a manger. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all mankind.